

Halloween Safety Tips

Make this Halloween a happy time to remember by practicing these safety habits.

1 Pedestrians and Traffic

- ☐ Go trick or treating in groups with a grown up. Never enter a home or an apartment unless accompanied by an adult.
- ☐ Visit only people you know in familiar areas.
- ☐ Cross streets at crosswalks and intersections. Stop at all street corners before crossing. Look left, right and left again before crossing the street and continue looking both ways as you cross.
- ☐ Carry a flashlight to see and be seen.
- ☐ Use reflective tape on costumes, bags and sacks.
- ☐ Do not cut across yards. Lawn ornaments and clothes lines are “hidden hazards” in the dark. Tell your children to stay on the sidewalk at all times.
- ☐ Motorists – Obey all traffic signs and signals. Slow down in residential neighborhoods. Watch for children walking in streets or medians or curbs. Enter and exit driveways and streets slowly and carefully. Teach children to exit and enter cars on the curb side, away from traffic.

2 Costumes

- ☐ When purchasing a costume, check to be sure it’s flame resistant.
- ☐ Make sure your costume lets you see and hear perfectly. You need to be able to watch and listen for cars.
- ☐ Make sure your costume fits. It’s easy to trip on costumes that are too long or shoes that are too big.
- ☐ Wear light or brightly-colored clothing. Put “glow-in-the-dark” or reflective patches or strips on your costume so drivers can see you.
- ☐ Be sure props such as knives or swords are made of flexible material so that children won’t be hurt should they fall.

3 Treats

- ☐ Teach children to not eat treats until an adult checks them for tampering.
- ☐ Check any toys or novelty items for choking hazards to children less than three years of age.

4 Decorations

- ☐ Use glow sticks or battery operated candles inside jack-o-lanterns instead of flame burning candles.
- ☐ Keep candles, pumpkins with candles, matches and lighters out of children’s reach.
- ☐ Keep candles and jack-o-lanterns away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame.
- ☐ Remove obstacles from lawns, steps and porches when expecting trick-or-treaters.
- ☐ Indoors, keep candles and jack-o-lanterns away from curtains, decorations and other combustibles that could be ignited.
- ☐ Indoors or outside, use only lights that have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory. Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Discard damaged sets.
- ☐ Don’t overload extensions cords.

Reference: *National Safe Kids Campaign on line at www.safekids.org; Consumer Product Safety Commission on line at cpsc.gov*